

**REMARKS**

Applicants have amended their claims in order to further clarify the definition of various aspects of the present invention. Specifically, Applicants have cancelled claims 1-3 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter thereof. In addition, Applicants have amended claim 4 by incorporating the subject matter of claim 5 therein; in light thereof, claim 5 has been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer.

The rejection of claim 6 under the second paragraph of 35 USC 112, as being indefinite, set forth on page 2 of the Office Action mailed February 16, 2005, is noted. By incorporating the subject matter of claim 5 into claim 4, claim 4 now recited "a hot-air blowout portion", included in the straightening tool. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that there is clear antecedent basis in claim 4 for the hot-air blowout portion as recited in claim 6, such that the rejection of claim 6 under the second paragraph of 35 USC 112, as set forth on page 2 of the Office Action mailed February 15, 2005, is moot. In this regard, note the contention by the Examiner on page 2 of the Office Action mailed February 16, 2005, that claim 6 "should depend from claim 5 in which a hot-air blowout tool is set forth"; such "hot-air blowout tool" has now been incorporated into claim 4, in view of amendments thereto.

Applicants respectfully submit that the claims presented for consideration by the Examiner patentably distinguish over the teachings of the prior art applied by the Examiner in rejecting claims in the Office Action mailed February 16, 2005, that is, the teachings of the U.S. Patents to Sieger, et al., No. 5,218,849, and to Luttgeham, No. 6,532,786, under the provisions of 35 USC 102 and 35 USC 103.

In connection with the prior art rejections, it is noted that the Examiner has not rejected claim 5; and, in fact, has indicated that claim 5 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. It is respectfully submitted that by incorporating

subject matter of claim 5 into claim 4, claim 5 has been rewritten into independent form as currently amended claim 4; and it is respectfully submitted that for this reason alone claim 4, as well as claim 6 dependent thereon, should be allowed.

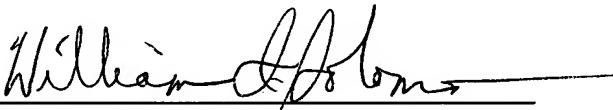
In other words, it is respectfully submitted that in view of the canceling of claims 1-3 and incorporation of subject matter of claim 5 into claim 4, all prior art rejections set forth in the Office Action mailed February 16, 2005, are moot, and should be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing comments and amendments, reconsideration and allowance of all claims presently in the application are respectfully requested.

Applicants request any shortage of fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, be charged to the Deposit Account of Antonelli, Terry, Stout & Kraus, LLP, Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (case 648.43047X00) and credit any overpayment to such Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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